

June 16 / Administration of George W. Bush, 2001

Every parent knows that raising a child is among the most hopeful and affirming experiences a human being will ever know.

So many of my generation had the same experience I did. When we held our children for the first time, we found ourselves. We found a world of duty and love that changed our lives. And since that day, “Dad” has been the most important title I have ever held or will ever hold.

Laura and I wish all the fathers listening a happy Father’s Day. So many of you provide to your children daily care and guidance, nurture and protection, discipline and

love, and it’s making a world of difference. On behalf of them, we want to express our appreciation.

Thank you for listening.

NOTE: The address was recorded at 3:30 p.m. on June 11 in the Cabinet Room at the White House for broadcast at 10:06 a.m. on June 16. The transcript was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary on June 15 but was embargoed for release until the broadcast. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of this address.

Remarks Prior to Discussions With Prime Minister Janez Drnovsek of Slovenia in Kranj, Slovenia

June 16, 2001

The President. [Inaudible]—the Prime Minister came to Austin to visit me when I was the Governor of Texas, along with then-Ambassador, now the Foreign Minister. We had a wonderful visit then, and I’m looking forward to a great exchange now. We had a good visit in the car coming here. And I’m so grateful for his hospitality

to this most spectacular and beautiful country. It’s really beautiful.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1 p.m. at Brdo Castle. In his remarks, he referred to Minister of Foreign Affairs Dimitrij Rupel of Slovenia. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to Discussions With President Vladimir Putin of Russia in Kranj

June 16, 2001

Q. Mr. President, any thoughts about this first meeting?

President Putin. First impression? It was a good first impression.

President Bush. I rest my case. [Laughter] We’re going to have a very good meeting, and I’ve been looking forward to this for a long period of time. We find we have a lot in common, and I’m so honored the President came here. I know it’s inconven-

ient to travel such a long distance, Mr. President—

President Putin. We know about the very latest statements of President Bush in Warsaw, and that’s a very good foundation for us to proceed.

President Bush. Thank you all.

NOTE: The exchange began at 2:45 p.m. at Brdo Castle. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.